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IDAHO PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

September 11, 2013

Advice No. ID-13-05

Jean D. Jewell, Secretary
Idaho Public Utilities Commission
472 West Washington St.
Boise, ID 83702

RE: Fremont Telcom Co. Tariff Advice Filing

Dear Ms. Jewell:

Pursuant to Idaho Public Utilities Commission Rule of Procedure 134, Fremont Telcom Co. ("Fremont") hereby submits the enclosed tariff advice filing to amend Fremont's Tariff IPUC No. 1, specifically, Original Sheet No. 41, and Original Sheet No. 74. Fremont respectfully requests that these revised tariff sheets take effect on November 1, 2013.

Background

As the Commission is aware, Blackfoot Telecommunications Group ("BTG") recently acquired Fremont from FairPoint Communications ("FairPoint"). See Idaho PUC Case No. FRE-T-12-01. As a result of the acquisition, BTG is currently in the process of migrating Fremont's current customers off of FairPoint's billing system and onto BTG's billing system. As part of that process, BTG has reviewed all of the current Fremont tariffed service offerings and has found some minor discrepancies. This filing is intended to clarify some of those discrepancies as well as address some local rate benchmarking issues as prescribed by the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC").

Tariff Advice Proposal

Fremont currently offers Number Reserve at a rate of \$6.44, per month, to residential subscribers and \$10.20, per month, to business subscribers. Fremont has been, in some instances, provisioning dial tone access to 911 services for the Number Reserve product as well as using Number Reserve as a type of seasonal or vacation service wherein customers are able to make both outbound as well as receive incoming calls for a period of time. As tariffed and as intended, Fremont's Number Reserve product is purely reservation of a telephone number by a customer for future use; it does not have any 911 or other switch based services associated with it.

To remedy this issue and to clarify the tariff application Fremont proposes to discontinue the Number Reserve product with the numbers being public resources that should not be reserved. Further, Fremont is proposing to give customers that currently have a mis-provisioned Number Reserve service the option to migrate their current service to the seasonal service or disconnect the number. In the future, when the customer contacts Fremont to temporarily suspend their service they will properly be provisioned as a Seasonal Service (described in more detail below) instead of a Number Reserve service.

Fremont currently offers Seasonal Service providing a 50% discount on the customer's flat rate local service. That discounted rate is currently \$12.90 per month for residential service and \$21.00 per month for business customers. For the residential service, this 50% discount results in local rates that are less than the \$14.00 amount prescribed by the FCC in 47 CFR § 54.318.

By this tariff advice, Fremont is proposing to raise the Residential Seasonal Service rate from \$12.90 to \$14.00 and keep the Business Season Service at \$21.00. Additional changes to the Seasonal Service include providing additional information describing specifics of what is included in the service as well as adding a \$25.00 non-recurring charge for the second and subsequent instances of Seasonal Service within a twelve month period. Importantly, some of the changes being proposed are necessary to align the Seasonal Service offering with what is required in the application of Federal Subscriber Line Charges pursuant to the National Exchange Carrier Association's Tariff No. 5.

The required 30 day notice of the price increase will be noticed to customers a minimum of 30 days before the requested effective date of the tariff.

Attached spreadsheet which includes Exhibit 1 and 2 show the rate and revenue effects for Fremont. Enclosed are the affected tariff pages, including final and legislative copies.

Fremont respectfully requests that these changes become effective as of November 1, 2013. A copy of this transmittal letter and exhibits shall be made available at Fremont's St. Anthony business office for public inspection during normal business hours.

Please contact me if you have any questions related to this filing.

Sincerely,



Michelle Norbeck
Carrier and Regulatory Specialist
406-541-5131
mnorbeck@blackfoot.com

FREMONT TELECOM CO.
I.P.U.C. No. 1
1st Revised Sheet No. 41
Cancels Original Sheet No. 41

IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
Approved Oct. 24, 2013 Effective Nov. 1, 2013
Per O.N. 32911
Jean D. Jewell Secretary

Number Reserve

(D)

(D)

Number Reservation Service has been discontinued as an offering.

Issued Date: September 11, 2013

Effective Date: November 1, 2013

Issued by: Michelle Norbeck
Fremont Telcom Co. dba Fremont Communications
1221 N. Russell Street
Missoula, MT 59808

Advice Letter: ID--13-04

SEASONAL SERVICE

RATES

Minimums, Maximums, and Discounts

	<u>Residential</u>	<u>Business</u>
1. Rate for Flat Rate Network Access Line Service, per month, per line	\$14.00	\$21.00
2. Non Recurring Seasonal Service Order charge.	\$25.00	\$25.00

CONDITIONS

1. Seasonal Service is available to customers that leave the Company's service area for an extended period of time but wish to suspend their existing telephone service while away.
2. In order to receive a seasonal discount during any twelve consecutive months of service, a customer must first subscribe to regular exchange service for a minimum 6 months regular service. Customers placing their service on seasonal status will not be charged the \$25.00 non-recurring for the first instance of seasonal service within a twelve month period. The charge will be applied when seasonal service is initiated for each subsequent occurrence of seasonal service during a 12 month period. The non recurring seasonal service order charge will not be applied when the Customer returns to regular exchange service.
3. Regulations
 - a. Only the basic monthly access line rate and FCC End User Line Charge are reduced by the applicable seasonal rates.
 - b. The Company's practices covering the discontinuance of service for non-payment of any amounts due the Company for telephone service will apply.
 - c. If service is established at the same location for a second customer, the new customer must have regular exchange service for the number of months specified in the Rates section.
 - d. The Company may request that payment for service be made in advance.

Issued Date: September 11, 2013

Effective Date: November 1, 2013

Issued by: Michelle Norbeck
Fremont Telcom Co. dba Fremont Communications
1221 N. Russell Street
Missoula, MT 59808

Advice Letter: ID--13-04

(C)

FREMONT TELECOM CO.

I.P.U.C. No. 1

~~Original 1st~~ Revised Sheet No. 41

~~Cancels Original Sheet No. 41~~

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Number Reserve

Number Reserve is intended for a customer who desires to reserve a number for future use.

Number Reserve rate is applied as follows:

<u>Rates</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
Each number reserved	25% x Flat Rate Service
	<u>Nonrecurring</u>
Per Number Reserved	Service Order
Per Number Activated	Line Connection Charge

(D)

(D)

~~Suspension of Service on this page has been moved to page 119.2 Service grandfathered for existing customers only~~
~~Number Reservation Service has been discontinued as an offering.~~

Issued Date: September ~~9~~¹¹, 2013

Effective Date: ~~October 9~~^{November 1}, 2013

Issued by: Michelle Norbeck
Fremont Telcom Co. dba Fremont Communications
1221 N. Russell Street
Missoula, MT 59808

Advice Letter: ID--13-04

FREMONT TELECOM CO.

I.P.U.C. No. 1

~~Original 1st Revised Sheet No. 74~~

~~Cancels Original Sheet No. 74~~

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SEASONAL SERVICE

RATES

Minimums, Maximums, and Discounts

	Residential	Business
1. Minimum Period of Service	6 months	6 months
2. Minimum Regular Service Period	6 months	6 months
3. Maximum Seasonal Service Period	6 months	6 months
4.1. Discount*Rate for Flat Rate Network Access		
Line Service, discount per month, per line	50% 14.00	50% 21.00
2. Non Recurring Seasonal Service Order charge.	\$25.00	\$25.00
5. A non-recurring Service Order charge applies to establish Seasonal Service discount but no non-recurring charge applies for returning to full service.		

CONDITIONS

1. Seasonal Service is available to customers that leave the Company's service area for an extended period of time but wish to ~~retain~~^{suspend} their existing telephone service while away.
2. In order to receive a seasonal discount during any twelve consecutive months of service, a customer must first subscribe to regular exchange service for ~~the a~~ minimum 6 months regular service ~~period listed above~~. ~~During any twelve consecutive months, a customer cannot receive a seasonal discount for more than the maximum seasonal service period.~~ Customers placing their service on seasonal status will not be charged the \$25.00 ~~non-recurring for the first instance of seasonal service within a twelve month period. The charge will be applied when seasonal service is initiated for each subsequent occurrence of seasonal service during a 12 month period. The non recurring seasonal service order charge will not be applied when the Customer returns to regular exchange service.~~
3. Regulations
 - a. Only the basic monthly access line rate and FCC End User Line Charge are reduced by the ~~applicable~~ seasonal ~~discount~~ rates.
 - b. The Company's practices covering the discontinuance of service for non-payment of any amounts due the Company for telephone service will apply.
 - c. If service is established at the same location for a second customer, the new customer must have regular exchange service for the number of months specified in the Rates section.
 - d. The Company may request that payment for service be made in advance.

(C)

Issued Date: September ~~9~~¹¹, 2013

Effective Date: ~~October 9~~^{November 1}, 2013

Issued by: Michelle Norbeck
Fremont Telcom Co. dba Fremont Communications
1221 N. Russell Street
Missoula, MT 59808

Advice Letter: ID--13-04

Exhibit 1

Advice No. ID-13-05

REVENUE EFFECT			Existing			Proposed (October 1, 2013)			Effect
Name	Qty. (a)	Price	Revenue	Qty. (b)	Price	Revenue	Revenue		
Residential - Number Reservation	228	6.44	1,468	-	-	-	(1,468)		
Business - Number Reservation	18	10.50	189	-	-	-	(189)		
Subtotal Number Reservation Service			1,657			-	(1,657)		
Residential - Seasonal	-	12.90	-	105	14.00	1,470	1,470		
Business - Seasonal	-	21.00	-	9	21.00	189	189		
Subtotal Seasonal			-			1,659	1,659		
Total Effect			1,657			1,659	2		
							Monthly Effect	2	
							Annual Effect	20	

Note: Seasonal customers would also be charged 50% of the NECA Tariff SLC (\$3.25)

(a) LTM Average count for July 2012 - June 2013

(b) Derived quantity to achieve revenue neutral effect. Increased rate will result in lower customer subscription to the service.